

# ATHLETIC GIRL OF TODAY HAS MANY BEAUTIFUL COSTUMES

## Holiday Season Brings Out Some Smart Dresses in the British Capital.

LONDON, Dec. 12.—How quickly the months pass by. Here once more we are confronted with the time of good cheer and are again immersed in Christmas shopping and getting ready for the season's balls which open the new year.

And the gowns which I have recently interviewed for dancing have been particularly fascinating. Even the simple white net and crepe frocks for the debutantes have a distinctive charm this year by reason of the much-gathered skirts and the introduction of the tiny seed pearl galons or button roses which adorn many of them.

One picturesque toilette to be worn on Christmas Eve by one of our prettiest English girls is a lovely shade of rose-pink crepe over a white soft satin skirt veiled with tulle. The skirt is composed of frills of the crepe from hem to waist, each frill hemmed with tiny frosted leaves which are decoratively employed on the full bodice that has a little white chiffon sprinkled with diamond dewdrops outlining and softening the décolletage. For sleeves there were just three frills of the material with shoulder straps of Bankela roses.

### Silver Gray Mousseline de Soie.

An elder sister has selected for the same occasion a silver gray mousseline de soie over pink tulle, the mousseline arranged in wide pleats and decorated with white Christmas roses down the center, two very full frills of black Chantilly giving a finish to the hem of the skirt. The same lace is used with effect on the bodice with the gray mousseline, a spray of roses and silver foliage crossing the bust with conspicuous success, while the sleeves were composed of two plisse frills of the gray mousseline outlined with gu-

pure and having the chantilly lace with a spray of roses for finishing touches.

Laced and net gowns play a most important part in our evening festivities, and the prices are such that every taste and purse can be accommodated.

There was a white net skirt embroidered in silver and gold sequins, on which were some white taffeta flower motifs outlined with sequins, and having stems of crystal beads.

### Sequins, Crystals, and Embroidery.

Wonderfully effective it was, and the combination of sequins and crystals, together with the raised flower embroidery—which, by the way, headed the outlined edge of the graduated flounce—stamped it as one of Dame Fashion's most successful achievements. Black net sequined gowns I saw in various forms, those sequined in black and steel with tiny silver beads and palm-leaf lace embroideries being especially attractive. For those who cannot afford an altogether new gown this Christmas let me advise a rechauffe with the aid of one or other of the lovely evening piece materials.

### Making Over the Old Gowns.

For instance, there are the exquisite ivory chiffon fabrics brightened with silver sequins or the robes of net covered with small flowers carried out in nacre sequins and silver beads, as well as others of black net having rows of black velvet ribbon for decoration with frills of net finished with the same, and which are really priced most moderately. For a very small sum one can purchase a Russian net robe trimmed with ribbon and frilled that will cover the time-worn black or white satin skirt so effectively as indeed to give one an altogether new toilette.

### Suggestions for Holiday Gifts.

For Christmas gifts there are some of the prettiest lace peleries made of

white taffetas veiled with ecru Alençon lace edged with fur and also charming ones made entirely of frilled lace. These are about three yards long and thirty inches wide, and are a necessary adjunct to the theater wrap, besides which they give not only an indescribable softening effect that is exceedingly happy but additional warmth to the body. I have no space to tell you of all the other tempting lace accessories that are suggestive of Yuletide.

### Velvet is becoming more and more popular, and this sharp touch of cold coming on so suddenly has emphasized its claims to our notice.

A delightful effect, too, is obtained by combining cloth of a lighter shade with velvet, and I have in my mind's eye a handsome walking costume, the skirt of which was composed of Nile green cloth, having the overskirt pleated from the waist to the knees and an under frill of the cloth edged with that new close beaver-brown feather trimming.

The bodice was of ecru guipure lace over satin; with it was worn a lovely green velvet coat cut away in points at the waist to show the lace vest, and it had a long pointed basque with fronts reaching to within ten inches of the hem of the skirt and cut fuller and shorter behind.

A deep collar of ermine together with a muff and picture hat of the same fur trimmed with two long black ostrich feathers and a green velvet and black tulle rosette completed as smart a costume as I have seen this season.

THE DUCHESS.



THE HOCKEY GIRL



THE SKATING GIRL

A Veritable Chameleon Girl Is Miss Up-to-Date, Whose Raiment Is as Varying and Delightful as Her Moods—She Is Charming Feminine or Refreshingly Athletic.

YOU never would recognize the fashionable girl as the same girl when you see her at different hours of the day. She is a veritable chameleon girl, changing to harmonize with every varying occasion. On the ice, playing hockey, or skating in her short skirt, jaunty jacket and stout shoes, she is the typical athletic girl, healthy and happy, and the best sort of company.

When you meet her shopping she looks another girl—a more dignified young person. Her gown is smart yet inexpensive, and it is exactly suited to the occasion.

### Charmingly Feminine Again.

At the 5 o'clock tea she will surprise you again. There is a certain distinctive air of elegance about her then which you never would have thought the girl on the ice possessed. Her gown is elaborate, her furs costly, and her hat an artistic creation which completes the picture. In the evening, when the dance is on, she appears a new type of girl, charmingly feminine in her soft filmy gown. Perhaps she is prettiest then, but after all that depends upon the individual girl.

### Corduroy Is in High Favor.

There is no denying the fact that the outdoor girl is most attractive this season, and her athletic costumes surely have much to do with her charming appearance. They are made of better materials than in other years, and in cut and finish have a decidedly smart air. The corduroy and velvet cord two-piece suits made with the instep length skirt are high in favor with the winter outdoor girl. They are most the vogue in seal brown, though in dark green, navy blue, and black they are also much worn.

### Pedestrian Suit of Plaid.

These suits are made with either a close-fitting short coat or a Norfolk jacket. The athletic girl is also wearing a pedestrian suit of plaid cloth trimmed with bands of self-material piped with velvet. On many of the outdoor costumes this season piping is introduced. Oftentimes the bands are piped with leather, or if they are dark cloth the piping may be of plaid silk. For general utility wear there is nothing more desirable than a Scotch tweed in a black and white or gray and white mixture trimmed with black Hercules braid, and if the gown needs brightening up a bit a mixed braid with a thread of gay color through it may be used in place of the black.

For shopping the fashionable girl has a number of costumes in her wardrobe.

Some are made with the instep length skirt, and hang in plaits from a plain close-fitting yoke. Others have the skirt which touches all the way round, and has a decided tendency to cling to the figure, and which shows less fullness at the bottom than a month or so ago.

The materials most in favor for the shopping gown are the metal printed velvets, the excellent wearing, whipcords and the chevrons with their delightful color combinations, to say nothing of the zibelines, which are not only appropriate for street wear in the dark shades, but are quite the correct thing in white and biscuit color for an afternoon tea costume.

### Her Gloves Are Mannish.

The girl who goes shopping is a most particular young person in regard to the accessories of her gown. Her gloves are of the mannish sort in cut and finish, and fasten with one big pearl button. Her stock is always smart in effect. If her gown is dark, she may wear a little bright plaid silk turn-down collar, with two tabs drawn through silk rings. Or, the collar may be of heavy linen or suede, hand embroidered and worn with cuffs to match. Her belt is narrow and inconspicuous, either of stitched silk or leather, fastening with a small gun metal or silver gilt buckle.

### Extravagant as to Veils.

Of course, she is extravagant as far as her veils go; all fashionable girls are. She has a collection of crepe de chine chiffon veils in a variety of colors. Some are finished with a deep hemstitched border, the line of fancy hemstitching being done in a color which will contrast effectively with the veil. Other veils are scattered with either chenille, velvet, or embroidered silk dots. These veils are most used to drape the hat, though on windy days they are allowed to fall in a loose fashion over the face and are worn in connection with a complexion veil of net, which may have a small lace border or tiny chenille dots as its decoration.

### Elaborate Tea Gowns.

The afternoon tea costume of fashion is a most elaborate gown this season. It shows much hand work and many exquisite insets, not only of lace, but of brocade and embossed velvet. The patterned cloths are much used for gowns of this sort, and just at present chambray is a favorite color. For afternoon teas, which are in the nature of a formal reception, heavy lace gowns are worn.

These lace gowns frequently are trim-



AN UP-TO-DATE SKATING PARTY

The Cream of European Society, Besides Many Wealthy Americans, Find a Haven of Delight in the Riviera. Parisian Modistes Are Making a Study of the Costumes There.

NICE, Dec. 2.—The Riviera inhabitants proper—that is to say, the native or the settler, who together cater equally for the foreign hordes alighting yearly in welcome on these shores—is just now greatly jubilant. Not for many a long day have the signs and portents so markedly pointed to a prolific and early season.

From Cannes to San Remo hotelkeepers and house agents are inundated with letters of inquiry and with demands for rooms, villas, or apartments. Many important houses and flats are already let. Shops are opening with a hurried display of their wares, just unpacked, and some of the larger hotels, usually shut until later in the season, have flung wide their portals. For well-known people are arriving daily or have announced themselves as en route.

### Winter Residences in Demand.

Perhaps this early advent is because they are alarmed at the repeated predictions of a severe winter, or because they are one and all longing for gladness, sunshine, and repose after the stress of stormy and anxious times, coupled with a cold summer. The reason, however, matters little to the breadwinner out here; he is chiefly happy at the well-founded hope of an excellent harvest.

A curious indication is the great increase of demands for a fixed winter residence of several months, mostly from newcomers, but also from those who generally pay but a fleeting visit south. A clear gain this to the Riviera, both socially and pecuniarily.

### Winter Sun Worship.

It takes, undoubtedly, some years of experience out here to fully gauge how ingrained and how spreading has become this habit of winter sun worship. The gloom of the murky skies of the "right little, tight little island" seems to some unbearably depressing once the radiance of the south has been tested. Strenuous workers have not, possibly, much time to notice the difference, but those whose careers have led them to the many warm climates, and others who, though not sickly, yet droop like tender plants in fogs and east winds, find a renewed lease of life and activity in this genial atmosphere.

The result is that, of the great and ever-increasing leisure classes, only the parliamentary fixtures and their belongings, and the hunting community, who refuse to budge till "those stinking violets spoil the scent," are later comers, like the smart set. After Christ-

### Where the Golfer Finds Joy.

The golfer is likely now to be quite content. Not only has he the Grand Duke Michael's luxuriously appointed and well-known links at Napoli, near Cannes, but owing to the energy and persistence of Eustace Hall, an Englishman long established at Nice, some splendid links only twenty-five minutes by rail from the capital of the Riviera are just receiving their finishing touches.

They and the railway station at their gates are situated on a wide, flat, breezy expanse between the sea and the River Loup at Venec-Cagnes, a picturesque and rural little village commanding glorious views of the mountains, of Cape d'Antibes and of the beautiful Baie des Anges, on the curve of which stands Nice.

This newly started golf club, which boasts a commodious and up-to-date clubhouse and owns an energetic secretary in Mr. Wenck-Horn, is managed by an influential and cosmopolitan committee, supported by many life members of donors.

### Riviera Dust.

Motorists find their easy way thither on paths of pleasantness and peace, since the police of France are kinder, or at least less keen on motorcar hunting than those of Surrey, and there is a strong probability also of dustless roads even within the coming season.

Experiments in oiling and tarring portions of roads were tried here and at Monte Carlo before the rains set in, and apparently with complete success. It only remains to see their condition during and after the present rains, just now torrential and continuous.

### To Make Perfect Highways.

Dust on the Riviera is its chief drawback, the chalky stone used for mending the otherwise excellent roads being very friable. Should the experiment prove as absolutely beneficial as is believed and hoped, the energetic municipalities all along the coast, who are quite alive to their interest in enhancing the charms of their respective districts, may be trusted to spare neither pains nor expense in making their highways perfect—a greater desideratum since life in the south is lived chiefly out of doors. One is always speeding hither and thither, like a dragonfly in the sun.